

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Today, House Democrats unveiled their final version of healthcare legislation, blended from three separate bills reported from as many committees.

"Since arriving in Washington I've made it a point to be involved in the healthcare debate. In the process I've formed a First District Healthcare Advisory Committee, held town hall meetings, several telephone town halls, and countless meetings with constituents. Overwhelmingly the response from these meetings and thousands of emails and phone calls has been an emphatic "no" to government run health insurance.

"However, this doesn't mean I or my constituents are opposed to reforming the way health insurance operates in this country. Many from both sides of the aisle agree that we should sell insurance across state lines, create pools for small businesses to lower premium costs, enact tort reform, and not bar those with preexisting conditions from receiving fairly priced insurance. These are the starting points for real healthcare reform, not a government run system bought on the credit of American taxpayers."

*Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was elected to his first full term in November 2008 and serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.*